

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 16, 17, 20 and 21 and AMEND claims 1, 7, 13, 19 and 22 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An information inquiry apparatus that receives an information inquiry from a terminal connected through a communication pathway, comprising:
 - an inquiry information file that ~~registers~~ stores the inquiry information for each ~~employee of a staff member~~ of an organization;
 - an advertisement information file that ~~registers~~ stores advertising information, possibly including an advertisement link that allows access to an additional ~~advertisement~~ advertising information, said advertising information being sent from an advertising company;
 - an inquiry image display generator that generates display data from the inquiry information file and the advertisement information file so that a display image of the display data contains the inquiry information for ~~a staff of an~~ the member of the organization and the advertising information, possibly including the advertisement link that allows access to the additional ~~advertisement~~ advertising information; and
 - an inquiry information transmitter that receives the information inquiry from the terminal and transmits the inquiry image; and
 - a purchase information file that stores purchase information when the member utilizes the advertising information, the purchase information being sent in aggregate to the advertising company.
2. (ORIGINAL) The information inquiry apparatus in claim 1, further comprising:
 - a confirmation information file that stores confirmation information when the employee submits the information inquiry from the terminal and receives the display image.
3. (ORIGINAL) The information inquiry apparatus in claim 2, wherein the confirmation information is sent to the organization.

4. (CANCELLED)
5. (CANCELLED)
6. (ORIGINAL) The information inquiry apparatus in claim 1, wherein the advertising information includes information tailored to at least one of an employee income level, an employee organizational unit and an employee information input.
7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An employee information communication method, comprising:
 - electronically storing employee information including at least one of employee name, employee company, employee number and employee password;
 - electronically storing advertising information from a first source;
 - electronically storing employee detailed wage information including at least one of employee number, employee company, employee name, payment amounts, deduction amounts and date of payment from a second source;
 - receiving an inquiry from an employee; and
 - generating a detailed wage image that includes advertising information, employee information and employee detailed wage information;
 - electronically storing purchase information when an employee utilizes the advertising information; and
 - sending in aggregate the purchase information to the first source.
8. (ORIGINAL) The employee information communication method in claim 7, further comprising electronically storing confirmation information when the employee submits the inquiry and receives the detailed wage image.
9. (ORIGINAL) The employee information communication method in claim 8, further comprising sending the confirmation information to the second source.
10. (CANCELLED)
11. (CANCELLED)

12. (ORIGINAL) The employee information communication method in claim 7, wherein the advertising information includes information tailored to at least one of an employee income level, an employee organizational unit and an employee information input.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An employee information communication system, comprising:

a first electronic data storage device that stores employee information including at least one of employee name, employee company, employee number and employee password;

a second electronic data storage device that stores advertising information from a first source;

a third electronic data storage device that stores employee detailed wage information including at least one of employee number, employee company, employee name, payment amounts, deduction amounts and date of payment from a second source; and

an image generator that receives an inquiry from an employee and generates a detailed wage image that includes advertising information, employee information and employee detailed wage information; and

a fourth electronic data storage device that stores purchase information when an employee utilizes the advertising information, the purchase information being sent in aggregate to the first source.

14. (ORIGINAL) The employee information system in claim 13, further comprising a fourth electronic data storage device that stores confirmation information when the employee submits the inquiry and receives the detailed wage image.

15. (ORIGINAL) The employee information system in claim 14, wherein the confirmation information is sent to the second source.

16. (CANCELLED)

17. (CANCELLED)

18. (ORIGINAL) The employee information apparatus in claim 13, wherein the advertising information includes information tailored to at least one of an employee income level, an employee organizational unit and an employee information input.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A wage information management apparatus, comprising:

- a detailed wage data structure that stores details of an employee's wage;
- a detailed wage inquiry authenticator that authenticates a wage inquiry based on an authentication code in the wage inquiry;
- a communicator that, when the detailed wage authenticator authenticates the wage inquiry, sends the detailed wage data to a source of the wage inquiry;
- a deduction information collector that accepts a deduction information from the source of the wage inquiry; and
- a deduction information recorder that records the deduction information sent from the source of the wage inquiry; and
- a confirmation data structure that stores confirmation information, to be sent to a second source, when the source submits the wage inquiry and the communicator sends the detailed wage data.

20. (CANCELLED)

21. (CANCELLED)

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An employee information communication apparatus, comprising:

- a first electronic data structure that stores employee information including at least one of employee name, employee company, employee number and employee password;
- a second electronic data structure that stores advertising information from a first source;
- a third electronic data structure that stores employee detailed wage information including at least one of employee number, employee company, employee name, payment amounts, deduction amounts and date of payment from a second source; ~~and~~
- an image generator that receives an inquiry from an employee and generates a detailed wage image that includes advertising information, employee information and employee detailed wage information; and
- a fourth electronic data storage device that stores purchase information when an employee utilizes the advertising information, the purchase information being sent in aggregate to the first source.